(*a*) whether the driving license of the driver of the lorry concerned in that question has been suspended;

(*b*) whether his driving license has been returned to him;

(*c*) if answer to (*b*) is in the affirmative, the date of the seizure and the date of the return of the license;

(*d*) whether the driver was actually driving the vehicle after the driving license was taken away from him;

(*e*) if answer to (*d*) is in the affirmate, on what authority;

(*f*) if this driver was not in charge of the vehicle who else was driving the lorry during this period?

Mr. S. Venkateswaran (*Conservator of Foresis*):

(*a*) No.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) Seized on 8th Dhanu 1120. Returned on 27th Dhanu 1120.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) On the strength of the orginal license.

(*f*) Does not arice in view of reply to (*e*).

Adjournment motion

Mr. President: I have received notice from Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan to move for the adjournment of the business of the Council to discuss a question connected with the lifting of the ban on public meetings. I am afraid I cannot admit this, as we had a full discussion on this subject some time ago.

Short notice motion

I have also received requests from Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar and Mr. Iyyu to admit short notice motions suggesting the desirability of establishing a convention by which the Minister should resign his office on the dissolution of the Council. I am of the opinion that neither of these motions should be admitted. There has been ample time for Hon'ble Members to give the prescribed notice since the intention to dissolve the Council was announced, and it is most undesirable in my view that a question with such important constitutional implications should be discussed without plenty of opportunity for full preparation and reference to authority.

Legislative Business—Government Bills

The Preservation of Eries Bill

Mr. A. Madhava Prabhu (*Diwan Peishkar*): I beg to move that the preservation of Eries Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon (*Advocate-General*): I second it.

Motion put and carried

Legislative Business—Non-Official Bills

The Cochin Court Fees Act (Amendment) Bill—

(Khan Sahib Ismail Hajee Essa Sait)

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (*Nominated*): I may be permitted to move the Cochin Court Fees Act (Amendment) Bill, in the absence of the Hon'ble Member.

Mr. President: Has the Hon'ble Member got his authority ?

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (*Nominated*): I have got his verbal instructions.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): Under Standing Order No. 42 "the member in charge of the Bill or in his absence any member may move that the Bill or the Bill as amended, as the case may be, be taken up and passed". No authority is required.

Mr. President: I suggest that if the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Bill has sent a message through the Hon'ble Member, we should hear it.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (*Nominated*): He has asked me to move on his behalf.

Mr. President: Very well.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder (*Nominated*): I beg to move that the Cochin Court Fees Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed.

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Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Bill—(Mr. K. M. Ibrahim)

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* Mr. President, Sir, I beg to move that the Cochin Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Bill be taken up and finally passed. With your leave, Sir, two printing mistakes have occurred in the Bill. They are very minor mistakes. In section 3(a) the marginal note has been incorporated in the section. I may be permitted to rectify that mistake.

Mr. President: I do not think it is necessary to move formal amendments. If the mistakes are pointed out they will be attended to when the Bill is reprinted.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* I thought that with the permission of the Chair I should move formal amendments.

Mr. President: That is not necessary. It is purely a misprint. That will be corrected as a matter of routine.

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim *(Cranganur):* In the next section instead of "ground" "grounds" must be added.

Motion put and carried

The Cochin Specific Relief Act (Amendment) Bill—

(Mr. K. Narayana Menon)

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* I beg to move that the Cochin Specific Relief Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. K. Kunhirama Menon *(Cheruthuruthi):* I second it.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I beg to oppose the motion.

Mr. K. Narayana Menon *(Mulakunnathukavu):* In view of the fact that the Bill had a thread-bare discussion yesterday on its merits I do not think that I should advance any further argument. This House has already expressed its opinion yesterday and I request that the House will continue its support to the Bill.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I also follow the example of my Hon'ble friend. I need not repeat my arguments over again. I therefore do not wish to add anything further.

Motion put and carried

The Cochin Verumpattamdars Act (Amendment) Bill—

(Rao Sahib K. Ayyappan)

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General):* I was addressing this House last evening about the amendment tabled by Government and I was dealing with the first amendment, the purpose of which is to delete the first proviso that appears in clause 3 of the Bill. I explained the principle involved. I once again request the House to be pleased to accept the amendment tabled.

Mr. K. Ashtamoorthi Nambudiripad *(Land-Lords):* I support this amendment.

***Mr. A. V. Moothedan** *(Chalakkudi):* This subject of conversion of money pattam to cocoanut pattam has been the subject of consideration for a considerable time ever since the Bill was finally passed and after that the present provision as it stands is causing considerable hardship to the agriculturists. According to the provision in the present Act, suppose there is a pattamchit of the year 1107 and the pattam fixed is Rs. 60. The price of cocoanuts at that time is Rs. 60 per thousand. Then he has to pay the present value of 1,000 cocoanuts. So, that will in some cases of pattamchits of depression periods, say 1107, 1110 when the price of cocoanuts is Rs. 30, he has to pay now 4 times the pattam. There are actual cases. I have come into contact with several people and I find there are cases in which 4 times the pattam has to be paid. To give some relief several suggestions have been considered by this House and I am glad that the Deputy President has tabled an amendment to the Bill. My first impression was that this Bill was really a benefit to the tenant. The first Bill was brought by the Hon'ble member for Kanayannur-Ezhuvas. Last night I took some pains to study how it will benefit the tenants and with the aid of the statistics published—we have even a long report of the statement

*Speech not corrected by the Hon'ble Member

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